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Appomattox, Virginia 24522
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W. Lloyd Vaughan, J. Franklin Vaughan ........................ Co-Publishers and Co-Editors

Mrs. Beck Hudson ........................................ News Editor

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## Letter To Editor

**Dear Editor:**

I am writing this letter in hopes that it will cause someone to stop and think about just where we are. The LORD is still on the thorne and we will surely reap what we sow. There comes a time with both individuals and nations when it is too late to repent. The door is in the BIBLE one hundred and one times. Sometimes it means protection to the ones in side, other times it means the shuting out of them that are outside it. It is heart-breaking to me to look out upon this world and see the doors of opportunity that are being shut on every side. When Noah entered the Ark and the door was shut it was too late for the world to repent. When the bridegroom came and the door was shut it was too late for the foolish virgins to repent. When King Herard failed to give God the Glory and was smote with worms, it was too late to repent. When King Ahab allowed his wicked wife to cause that poor man to be killed to get that plot of land, it was too late for him to repent. When Esau sold his birthright after that he found no place for repentance though he sought it with tears. When the man of God listened to a false prophet, see I King 13:18, and was slain by a lion, it was too late to repent. It breaks my heart to look out and see the things that have happened in the homes and in the church and nation that it is too late to repent. When a mother dresses or uses bad language or conducts herself in bad taste, she shuts the door on her influence upon her daughter and once that is destroyed, it is to o late to repent. When a father drinks, curses and brags about how he has made a fast dollar, he shuts the door on his influence over his son and once it is destroyed, it is too late to repent. I know a man who drinked and sometimes got drunk but not too many people knew it for he was looked up to in the church, but when his boys grew up and they started drinking, he saw the evil and fought the habit, but it was too late and one boy just missed filling a drunkard's grave by a hair breadth.

Many pastors today start off by preaching to please the people and soon find out that it is too late to preach against sin and ungodliness and parents fail to teach their children obedience and by so doing they shut the door and when the children grow up they won't listen to parents and break many hearts.

If this nation had spent the money that they have spent on space programs in harnessing the water power that is going to waste, we would not be facing the crisis that we do face today and regardless of what happens, it is too late to repent.

If citizens of this nation would have taken more interest in their Government and what the men do when we elect them and demand that they be of highest integrity, we wouldn't be in the mess we are in now.

I appeal to everyone in both Church and State to take a long, hard look at the doors of opportunity which are open for you and make up your mind that by the help of God you act before the doors are closed.

Yours for God and Country
F. L. Lyon
Route 2, Box 228
Pamplin, Virginia 23958

## Meeting of the Virginia Council For The Deaf

The quarterly meeting of the Virginia Council for the Deaf will take place at 10:00 a.m., December 10, 1973, in the Board Room of the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation in Richmond, Virginia.

Mr. T. Vernon Cherry, Jr. of Norfolk, is chairman of the fourteen member council.

The Virginia Council for the Deaf has been in existence for one year as a result of legislation that was passed in the 1972 General Assembly. Its basic function is to act in an advisory capacity, to unify existing services for the deaf, and to disseminate information to the hearing impaired and the general public.

At the December meeting the Council's agenda will include reports from various state departments evaluating their present services to the hearing impaired.

**Need Encouragement 352-7900**

## The Pastor Speaks

**Do This In Remembrance Of Me**

*I Cor. 11:24*

IT SEEMS THEN, that Christians may forget Christ! There could be no need for this loving exhortation, if there were not a fearful supposition that our memories might prove treacherous. Nor is this a bare supposition: it is, too well confirmed in our experience, not as a possibility, but a sad fact. It appears almost impossible that those who have been redeemd by the blood of the dying Lamb, and loved with an everlasting love by the eternal Son of God, should forget that gracious Savior; but, if startling to the ear, it is too apparent to the eye to allow us to deny the crime.

Forget Him who never forgot us! Forget Him who poured His blood forth for our sins! Forget Him who loved us even to the death! Can it be possible? Yes, it is not only possible but conscience confesses that it is too sadly a fault with all of us, that we suffer Him to be as a wayfaring man tarrying but for a night. He whom we should make the abiding tenant of our memories is but a visitor therein. The cross where one would think that memory would linger, and unmindfulness would be an unknown intruder, is descrated by the feet of forgetfulness. Does not your conscience say that this is true? Do you not find yourselves forgetting of Jesus? Some creature steals away your heart, and you are unmindful of Him upon whom your affection ought to be set. Some earthly business engrosses your attention when you should fix your eye steadily upon the cross. It is the trouble that this world is in, the attraction of earthly things which takes away the soul from Christ. While memory too well preserves a poisonous weed, it allows the rose of Sharon to wither. Let us charge ourselves to bind a heavenly forget-me-not about our hearts for Jesus our Beloved, and whatever else we let slip, let us hold fast to Him.

Earnie Lucas, Pastor
Bible Baptist Church,
Appomattox, Va. 24522

## The Sunday School Lesson

**Herbert C. Bradshaw**
**P. O. Box 1833**
**Durham, N.C., 27702**

Comment on the International Sunday School lesson for December 16, 1973

Topic: **Belief or Unbelief?**

*He who believes in the Son has enternal life; he who does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God rests upon him.* John 3:36

No hazy gray land separates belief and unbelief for the writer of the Gospel of John. For him there is a sharply delineated demarcation. Nor is there any confusion in his mind about the consequences of belief and unbelief. A person believes t'at Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and experiences redemption and eternal life. A person does not believe in the Son and experiences alienation and separation from God.

Jesus Christ the Son and God the Father are one, John teaches, and therefore it is proper and valid to believe in and obey the Son. Those who followed Jesus in discipleship came to realize His identity with the Father, believed in Him, and trusted for their redemption in His salvation.

In this emphasis John raises an issue which presents a problem to many today. How is it that a God of live will allow any of the creatures made in His likeness **not** to experience the blessedness of eternal life with Him? The question was well answered by Sir Esme Howard, the Bristish ambassador to the United States some four decades ago, in his memoirs.

As a young man beginning his diplomatic career, Sir Esme served as a secretary to the Bristish embassy in Rome and there fell in love with an Italian princess. One of the conditions for the marriage was that he become a Roman Catholic. Sir Esme took instruction in that faith and posed the question of the preceding paragraph to the priest who was teaching him. The priest's answer satisfied the young diplomat: the individual himself makes the choice of whether or not he will experience eternal life with God. The person who rejects God and refuses to commit his life in faith to Him chooses to alienate himself from God and to live a life eternally separated from God.

Jesus made the same point, as John reports it: "He who rejects me and does not receive my sayings has a judge; the word that I have spoken will be his judge on the last day." Jesus reiterated the purpose of His mission to save the world, not to judge it. This purpose had been expressed earlier, either in words spoken by Jesus to Nicodemus or in John's interpretation of that conversation (for it is not clear whether these verses are a direct quotation of Jesus's words): "For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. He who believes in him is not condemned; he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light."

So we come again to the basic issue of human freedom, the freedom to determine to whom or to what a person will commit his life. John recognizes that freedom, for as we read his Gospel, we find accounts of those who believe in Jesus and those whose unbelief hardens into hostility toward Him. But John also leaves no doubt that the consequences of belief and unbelief are completely different.

John is a candid writer who does not pretend that a life of belief is the easier way. He reports the powerful opposition to Jesus and the obstacles put in the way of the believer by those who opposed Him: "Nevertheless many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, lest they be put out of the synagogue: for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God." But John emphasizes the reward and the rich return of belief in eternal life.

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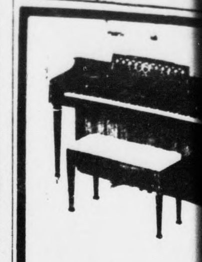

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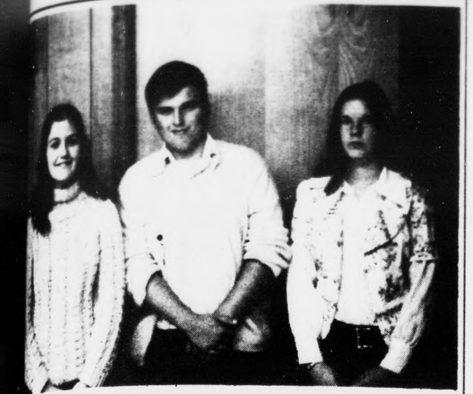

## [Stu]dents Attend Convention

[V]irginia Junior Classical [he]ld its fall convention [a]nd Saturday, Decem[ber ...] at Hotel Roanoke in [...]

[...] were one thousand [represen]tatives from the [...] throughout Virginia; [th]ese were four Appo[mattox H]igh School delegates: [...]ayneur, Judy Bryant, [...] Tabor, and Gary Car[ter ...] were accompanied by [Cl]audine O'Brian, Latin [in]structor.

[...] Clyde G. O'Brien [...] the group to the hotel. [...] we registered, two [...]s from Salem showed [...] to their rooms. The [...] renovated hotel is a [...] impressive sight.

[...] of the Friday high[lights] were a buffet, Roman [...] a dance with the [...]ding band, the Rocks; a [...] a swim in the hotel [...] and a Roman Fashion [...]

[S]aturday after breakfast, [G]eneral Assembly met. [...] school had its designated [...] Appomattox was placed [...] Spotsylvania County. [...] candidates gave cam[paign] speeches for VJCL for [...] At lunch they cam[...] in the lobby, and the [...]s cast ballots in the [...] session. Then the [...]ion was held.

[...] the morning session, [...] were various workshops, [...]s Latin Week, and [...] ideas. The two sem[inars w]ere conducted by Dr. [...] Sumner of Mary Wash[ington] College on "numisma[tics" an]d Dr. Ruth Williamson [...]rd on mythology.

[A]fternoon session had for [enter]tainment: a scene from [...] Mostellaria, presented [...]lley High School, and [...]it, Turmoil in the [...] by Cave Springs High [...]

[...]se of snow and rain, we [...] convention before the [...]n; however, we all left [...] feeling of gratitude for [...] wonderful opportunity. [...]e next year many others from the Appomattox Chapter can go to Hotel Roanoke for the 1974 convention.

by
Gary Carter

## ROCKS

Dec. 10 - Here's wishing the Editor and his staff and all the Times-Virginian readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

It was a real winter day Saturday.

The Week of Prayer was observed last week for Foreign Mission in two homes and at church twice.

A speedy recovery is wished Mrs. W. H. Elder's aunt, Mrs. Clara Dudley, who was operated on at Virginia Baptist Hospital on Thursday.

A large crowd was out on Thursday night for the club meeting and Christmas party at Mrs. C. E. McLaughlin.

The farmers were over pleased with tobacco prices last week.

Cecil Holt returned home last week from the hospital.

A number were shopping in Lynchburg last Wednesday.

James Martin was able to go back to school Wednesday.

The Rocks Quartet went to sing at Lynnhurst Sunday night.

Mrs. John Ranson went to Lynchburg Thursday.

Mrs. Jim Frank Ranson accompanied her daughter, Mrs. Richard Gilliland and children back to North Carolina last Sunday for the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn McIntosh went to see Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Roach at Lovingston Sunday and to see Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Williams and Steve at Waynesboro.

A speedy recovery is wished Keith Harris of Evergreen who had an operation recently.

Mrs. Stanley Roach and Mrs. R. E. Roach were in Farmville Saturday shopping.

## Farm Bureau Takes Policies to General Assembly.

The Virginia Farm Bureau is in the process of taking its 1974 policy positions to General Assembly members.

The state's largest farm organization adopted policy on 80 state and national issues at its annual convention last month in Richmond.

Twenty-four meetings have been scheduled in the state's senatorial districts for local county Farm Bureau leaders to meet with State Senators and Delegates.

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Twenty-four meetings have been scheduled in the state's senatorial districts for local county Farm Bureau leaders to meet with State Senators and Delegates.

The meetings started Dec. 10 and continue through Dec. 17.

Purpose of the meetings is to acquaint elected officials with Farm Bureau positions, and to obtain comments from General Assembly members.

"These meetings give us a basic background for our legislative program," said Alex Hamilton, Farm Bureau's Public Affairs director. "It is important that our General Assembly members become aware of our policy before they go to Richmond to start the 1974 session."

Hamilton said that the convention delegates adopted 80 policy positions, and 24 have been designated as priority issues. These include: land use planning; special monies requested from the state budget; local tax altrenatives; and pesticide legislation.

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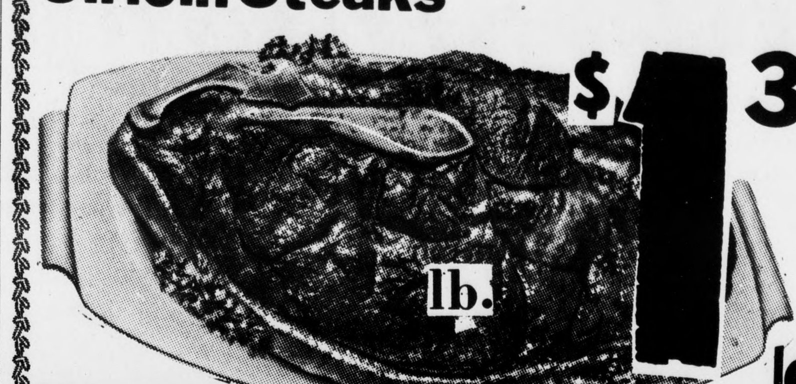

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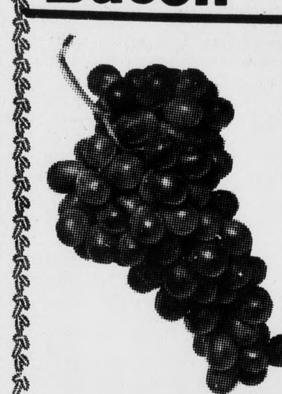

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